

The Times-Dispatch

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SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1913.

VIRGINIA'S LOST OPPORTUNITY.

When President-Elect Wilson takes up the reins of government, he will look to John W. Kern, of Indiana, as the Democratic spokesman in the upper house, for Thomas Staples Martin, senior Senator from Virginia, and Democratic leader in the last Congress, has been deposed. All his experience, all his friends, all his weight of seniority, could not save Senator Martin the humiliation of defeat, for skill and age and length of service do not make a reactionary a progressive—and the time for weighing men by what they believe and do has come. The day for trusting empty pretensions and meaningless party labels has gone!

Political parties, like individuals, owe their growth and power to their vision and outlook and faith. To stand still is to perish. The mere march of events will destroy that community or that nation that does not go forward. No progress is perfect, but all progress is better than no progress.

Mistakes will be made by the new Congress—mistakes that the wise experience of skillful manipulators might have avoided. And for all such mistakes the new men and the new methods will be blamed. But because the Times-Dispatch believes in a larger day, because we trust the people, because we had rather see the people commit errors of their own volition than be led by the nose in plain paths mapped out by private interests, we have welcomed the new spirit in American life. To join in that effort and to be one of that spirit is an ideal that has powerfully touched the hearts of millions of American voters. This is not a dim, far-off ideal; it is a real, practical, and personal duty at home—it is the duty to make things better; it is the duty to go forward with a wise, serene, unflinching faith in the future of this country; it is the duty to break old shackles, and loose old bonds, and to set at liberty old powers for democratic government.

He who sees this vision and serves the people is the leader that is to come. Many have been tried and found wanting. Many who are now high and accredited leaders may fall by the wayside. But the opportunity is still there—the vision will not perish—and they who serve will ever be they who rule.

Virginia has been fed too long with talk of democracy. What has Virginia done to show that the people are fit to govern themselves? What advance has Virginia made that is worthy of the name? What has she done to develop agriculture? What has she done to better living conditions? To improve tax laws? To develop her resources? To conserve her wealth, and, above all, to conserve her citizens?

At the birth of this nation the civilized world looked to Virginia for a vision of a government that was to be. Who looks to Virginia now? Who comes here to study new and better methods? Who finds inspiration and vision and courage and faith in Virginia's chosen political leaders? Where there is no vision the people perish. But the national Democratic party has evidently made up its mind not to perish because Virginia's political ideals are honeycombed with dry rot.

In the last Congress Virginia prided herself that her senior Senator was the minority leader of the Democratic party. But in the day of her power, at a time when the Democratic party was once more entrusted with the duties and responsibilities of government, it was not to Virginia that the rest of the country looked for light and leading. We have been left behind.

We are heartily sorry for Senator Martin—but we are sorrier for Virginia!

THE BIG NAVAL DRY DOCK QUESTION.

Discussing as between Norfolk and Philadelphia the location of the proposed big naval dry dock, the Baltimore Evening Sun compasses the whole question of the influences and the reasons that should determine location. The real opposition in itself to Philadelphia, comments that contemporary, does not come from the Virginia Congressmen, as the Philadelphia advocates in their wrath claim, but from the difficulty of maintaining a clear channel in the Delaware River.

The Evening Sun lays down the broad and sound proposition that it is the duty of Congress to disregard the local politicians, who are pulling for local interests, and to do, not what will please Philadelphia or Norfolk, but what is best for the navy. Mr. Lee's statement that a 1,700-foot dry dock can be built at Philadelphia for less than a 1,600-foot dry dock can be constructed at any other place does not, it argues, reach the main points, among them the considerations of strategic position, depth of water, a channel so deep and clear that there would be no danger of a ship grounding, and convenient access to the rendezvous and grounds of the Atlantic fleet.

more fully than any other place on the Atlantic seaboard.

The city lies off Hampton Roads, which is naturally the greatest marine rendezvous on our Eastern coast, and which is the strategic key to Richmond, Washington, Baltimore and a vast hinter country, and capable of floating the navies of the world. It is in close proximity to the naval practice grounds, and when the projected fortress at Cape Charles shall have been completed, its defense against naval attack will be absolute.

More than that, in the event of hostilities with a foreign power, Hampton Roads would logically be the chief base from which our naval demonstrations would be made, and to which, in case of being disabled, our ships would retire.

When these facts are weighed, it would appear folly little less than criminal not to locate the dry dock at Norfolk. To count the comparative cost of construction as justification for building it elsewhere involves pursuing a policy of "the cheapest and most inexcusable, false and dangerous economy." All the arguments are conclusively and irrefutably on the side of Norfolk, on the merits of the matter, entirely irrespective of political pullings, local interests or pleasing this, that or the other community or section.

The interests at stake are national, and as bearing on future possibilities touching the preparedness of our navy in a crisis, vital. In that light alone can Congress, if it would fulfill its duty to the country, decide the issue.

LET THE STATES CHOOSE.

We believe that President Taft, in vetoing the bill giving States the power of supervision over liquor shipments from outside territory, acted as he judged right. His interpretation of the constitutionality of the measure, and his declaration that the executive and the legislature must prevent unconstitutional legislation, are in exact accord with his temperament and past record. But his admission of the "popular approval of this act" justifies the Senate in passing the measure over the veto by a convincing vote.

This bill was not framed as a means of impressing upon Congress the necessity for assuming a burden that has been left for the Supreme Court. President Taft's message upon the dangers consequent on forcing the court to make final decisions that should have been made by the legislative branch does not touch the real issue. This real issue concerns the right of individual States to regulate their internal policy upon the liquor question as they think best. The bill expresses the will of the people that they may settle a grave question unhampered by influences over which they can exert no control. The Times-Dispatch believes that the States should have this right, and that until it is granted a true test of prohibition measures and sentiment cannot be secured. Such State freedom of police powers is preliminary to a fair and wise settlement of the fundamental elements of liquor control.

For this reason, the Senate did right to override the veto. For this reason, the House should pursue a similar course. Then let the court decide the issue between freedom of interstate commerce and freedom of State police powers. If the measure is adjudged unconstitutional, the popular approval already recognized will have some means of asserting its will. If the Constitution is in the way of such a demand, it can be changed.

THE FANTASTIC FUTURISTS.

Hark, hark, the evilies bark. The Futurists do things brown. Some paint hags, and some paint jags. And all paint upside down.

The above modified version of ancient wisdom needs one qualification. The so-called Futurists, who are sculptors and painters, suffering from esthetic vertigo, not only paint things upside down, but also downside up, inside out, on their ebbins, north by southwest, and in four hitherto unknown dimensions. They paint and sculpt, not what they are, but what they don't see. They try to reproduce, not the tempting color and icy beads of a fragrant mint-julep, but the bizarre effect of the mint-julep itself. The visions and emotions so inspired naturally bear little corporeal resemblance to the thing itself. The Futurist does not paint from a model. He paints the inside of his own head. We think this is sufficient explanation of the results. The head of the Futurist artists looks like the Old Curiosity Shop after an earthquake.

The Perverted products of this latest School of European art have just reached America. New York is seeing them, and rejoicing in a novel sensation. The exhibit is better than sky-scrapers, gunmen, high cost of living, and noise to stimulate jaded senses. It gives all the joys of being mad with the hope of recovery if you go out and look a long time at the good old earth.

We can hardly do better in giving the provinces a hint of this last season than to reproduce some of the opinions voiced. One critic declares the "opening night of the international exhibition was one of the most exciting adventures I have experienced. I felt for the first time that art was recapturing its own essential madness at last. For madness and courage are the very life of art. The new men are certainly some artists then! The reproductions of their work indicate that they are even more—pure imbeciles."

We rather incline to the soberer humor of other frank observers. Before a Futurist bit of statuary called "The Bust of a Lady" one honest man asked: "Is it a lady, or an egg?" while another inclined to the opinion that it was a Bilkent.

Just for safety we observe that impressionist met with the same ridicule, and that Wagner's music dramas made rich pickings for the jester. It may be that the Futurists have a message. Perhaps it is a wireless message. Perhaps it is a message not to be taken at all.

the future, we are precious glad we live in the present.

THE PRESIDENT IN THE CAPITOL.

While the report that Mr. Wilson intends to bring himself into close personal touch with national legislation by "dropping in" frequently on Congress does not inspire in our minds the idea that he will be a dictator, or even a meddling busybody, we do not think the proposed innovation either wise or necessary. Whatever real service he can render in advancing legislation can be performed admirably by consultation, as in the past. For the President to become a permanent floor leader from the executive office in the Capitol, or to lobby actively during the passage of bills, would be out of keeping both with our system of government and with our conception of presidential dignity. In the end his measures would be hampered, rather than forwarded, by his presence. He could surely do nothing more than direct the parliamentary strategy of his party, and if he cannot find leaders wise enough and devoted enough to his ideals to conduct such campaigns under his guidance from the White House, he will be able to accomplish nothing by personal touch. The best generals have ever led from the rear.

The Prime Ministers of other countries are elected by the people to secure certain laws. They are part of the legislative branch. But our form of government is divided into executive and legislative departments. They are separate. Would it be wise to confuse them, to divide responsibility, to break down firmly established precedents? It is possible we could work by another system. Yet, as long as the present forms produce satisfactory results, it is an unnecessary and dangerous innovation to extend the President's just powers. In some instances his presence might do great good, but it would open a broad road to cumulative encroachment, and the ultimate results would be hard to forecast. The proposal is full of grave risks.

The checks and balances theory of government is not altogether consonant with modern political ideals. The mechanical equilibrium of a century ago no longer works as intended. The fundamental fact of democracy is not to inhibit popular desires, but to make them right and wise. Our faith is in the intrinsic value of citizenship. We care less and less for the Constitution and the forms; more and more for self-control, courage, patriotism and breadth in the people. Therefore, since this new sense of personal responsibility finds final accomplishment in direct representation, we see no vital need for entangling the executive functions with party legislation.

THE MONEY TRUST REPORT.

It is clear that the report of the Pujio money trust investigating committee involves issues too complex and comprehensive to be discussed off-hand. This report, coupled with the voluminous letter from J. P. Morgan & Co., just published, attempts a dissection of the entire financial machinery of the country. One affirms the existence of the "trust"; the other calls upon economic laws to prove that no such thing exists, or could exist. The plain man, unversed in financial casuistry and dialectics, must reserve opinion, until the meaning of such vast sums can be made more comprehensible to him. If there is any conclusion to be drawn from the mass of technicalities, it is that prolonged and accurate investigation and the most careful study of international finance are needed before we can even begin to understand the problems, much less pass judgment on the proposed remedies.

From the report, however, certain broad conclusions can be made. The committee thinks it has traced the methods of control of banking facilities and credits, and proved the existence of some form of concentration in a comparatively few hands. It specifies exactly the members of the so-called trust. From the discussion, dental and fresh evidence that the indictment must produce, we may be able to learn whether this conclusion is true. At present it seems to be a question of interpretation of what is meant by "financial control."

Two definite proposals are made to remedy evils found. Both are to be exercised by the national government through indirect control. Stock exchanges are to be regulated by denying the mails to those exchanges that do not comply with Federal regulation. Clearing houses are to be supervised by forbidding national banks to enter such associations as fail to comply with Federal rules.

The dangers of interlocking directorates are emphasized. Certain rules for stock exchanges are laid down. The most important general statute is for giving publicity to stock exchange affairs. Whatever be the merits of other features of the report, the uninitiated can see the wisdom of making huge money and security transactions matter of public knowledge. More light will certainly not harm any legitimate business interest.

In conclusion, we think the matter of light is what this report emphasizes. Before we can attempt legislation we must have clear and comprehensive information.

It has been estimated that in comparison with the \$12,000,000 spent by the United States on foreign missions last year, some \$13,000,000 was spent for chewing gum. Maybe that is the reason they prefer to remain heathen.

We should judge that the new opera, "Cyrano de Bergerac," must be remarkable for its nasal tones.

If Dr. Friedman has not discovered a cure for tuberculosis, for his false stimulation of new hope in thousands he will deserve a circle of the Inferno beyond even Dante's imagination to conceive.

Will he be known to history as "Veto" Taft?

Will they show the moving pictures of the inauguration in the Air Dome at Oyster Bay?

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

From the Hickeyville Clarion.

A candy pull was held last Friday evening under the auspices of the Ladies Aid at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Higgins, the proceeds to go toward a fund to buy red flannel chest protectors and ear muffs for a head of the fire department. Outside of the few drawbacks it was quite a successful affair. Uncle Ezra Haskins broke his new teeth that he had from the mail order house only two weeks before by trying to eat a piece of candy, and several of the teeth got worked into the batch of candy and couldn't be found. Hank Tumms and Hod Peters, who have both been true and loyal Democrats since election, got into an argument over the revision of the tariff from "agate" to "zinc." Hank claimed "zinc" was spelled with a "k," and Hod claimed it was spelled with a "q," and they tipped over the stovepipe, spilling about ten quarts of soot into the whiskers of Brannan W. Tootle, who was lying back of the stove asleep, and who started such a row that the constable had to swear in ten deputies to restore order. While Tumms and Hod's youngest kid sat fire to the summer kitchen by smoking cigarettes, and Amy Hicks gave Bushrod Perkins a black eye for asking to see Miss Pansy Tibbitts home, Miss Amy Hicks sang nine selections. Outside of these regrettable incidents, a pleasant time was had by all. The heathen got \$1.49, and it cost Lemuel Higgins \$45 for repairs.

Miss Euphemia Perkins, our poetess of passion, read an article in the Sunday papers entitled, "How to Get Rid of Moles for \$2," and she sent \$2 to the concern, as she had the mole on her chin which had interfered with her matrimonial prospects for some years. Yesterday, by parcel post, she received a fine steel mole trap, which sticks in the ground.

Caught on the Fly.

"Cleveland, Sixth City," is the slogan of the Ohio metropolis, but no Cleveland has yet tried to say it while intoxicated.

When a man speaks automobiles as "motoring," it is a church that his eldest daughter has been abroad.

Old Doc Evans, of Chicago, says leishmaniasis is a congenital disease, but it certainly sounds kind of scratchy.

There will be no bunny bug or turkey trot at the White House during the Wilson regime. The administration hopes to accomplish greater things than break dances.

It seems to be getting harder and harder for San Francisco to stay on the map. It is now resorting to a police investigation.

Taft and Bailey will help elevate the legal profession in the future. And there is no denying that the legal profession needs it.

Yes, the Panama Canal may change the climate. It has already caused a parcel post, providing they are hard boiled.

The Moving Picture Man.

Who stands where cannons loudly roar? Where military airplanes soar?

When lightning strikes, who calls for more? The moving picture man.

Who whirls his little old machine in manner that is most serene? When heroes fall upon the green? The moving picture man.

Who doesn't fume and doesn't fret When bullets nip his cigarette? And sudden death's the one best bet? The moving picture man.

Who feels it's not at all amiss To scale the mighty precipice? But rather thinks it is a bliss? The moving picture man.

Who faces battleships when they launch madly from the shipyard way? And nearly drown him in the spray? The moving picture man.

Who turns the reels and never tires, Midst rumbling walls and falling wires? Who's in the forefront at all times? The moving picture man.

Who in the seething crater goes, And burns his face and hands and toes, And suffers pain nobody knows? The moving picture man.

Who spends all courage and has shown, And treads the danger path alone, But who remains unscathed, unknown? The moving picture man.

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AN ENGLISHMAN'S HOME.

By John T. McCutcheon.

(Copyright, 1913, By John T. McCutcheon.)



order, whose roster embraces men of various religious beliefs, including Jews. The chaplain bore the open Bible, and in a Christian church edifice this book was deposited on the altar. Nobody's sensibilities were shocked. That fraternal inculcation of the principles of righteousness, of justice, of truth, of mercy, of charity, of Godly fear and reverence, and so we have a great society which we call "our government," and its membership men of many creeds and races, but the great underlying fundamental principles of righteousness permeates the rank and file, and we could ill afford to ignore the source of this wholesome inspiration. It would indeed be unbecomingly for our public schools to foster sectarianism, but it is none the less unreasonable to prohibit the proper reading of the Bible in these schools when all thinking men must realize that the obliteration of this book from the civic and social life of this nation would work an evil no less than a catastrophe.

As far as the Protestant Christian church is concerned, it does not have to seek the help of the public schools to inculcate its doctrine of the inspiration of the Scriptures, and if there exists anywhere a fear that the reading of the Bible in the public schools, without comment or exposition, will ensure to the benefit of this church, such fear is an unconscious tribute to the strength of the "open Bible" position.

But surely the people are not going to do any such foolish thing as to seriously protest against the request of the School Board that the Bible be read in our public schools. If so, is it unreasonable to expect that out of a spirit of abounding liberality and unselfish regard for everybody's feelings, or lack of feelings, efforts will soon be made to erase "In God we trust" from our coins, and to demand from our State papers a new standard be improvised, and our public libraries contain only those books that everybody indorses, believes in and loves?

W. M. BICKERS, Richmond, Va., February 12, 1913.

Complaint of C. & O. Passenger Service.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—Inasmuch as I have had a considerable number of unpleasant, rather trying trips on the James River Division of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, I will thank you to publish the following:

During the past three days I have been a passenger on four trains of the James River Division of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway company. In every case the train has been crowded, and in one case it was so crowded that I was unable to get a seat. The conductors and the trainmen were very polite and efficient, but the service was very poor. The trains were very slow, and the schedule was very irregular. The conductors and the trainmen were very polite and efficient, but the service was very poor. The trains were very slow, and the schedule was very irregular.

Now from your lone toms on the shore, You'll enrich the wide world each year more and more.

Enshrined in the hearts of your own land, You'll live through all ages; there rest on, brave men.

The fingers half frozen that traced your request Will move again never, but at your bidding.

Each Englishman's coffers will be open wide, To shelter your orphans, and for them provide.

The story you hoped to proclaim with your breath Is far more dramatic when told by And by the immortals they'll tenderly lay.

You with England's great in the Abbeys some day.

REV. D. H. KENNEY, Philadelphia, Pa.

Very respectfully yours, W. E. BUFORD.

Dissents from Baptist Brethren.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—Referring to the report of the Baptist Ministers' Conference, as published in your Monday's edition, it is with regret that I am compelled to state that the report was adopted by a majority of vote; some of us were absent on account of the snowstorm prevailing. For myself, I will allow me to say that while I approve of much in that report, written, by the

Personally, I am interested as the part owner of the service, its value being largely dependent on the service accorded to it by the railroad. In a sense, I regard exceedingly to see such treatment given to a single leg of the upper James and its surrounding country, one of the loveliest and most fertile sections of Virginia, and certainly the most attractive and healthful region within seventy-five miles of Richmond.

Very respectfully yours, W. E. BUFORD.

PUT THIS LABEL ON YOUR GOODS

Telephone a MADISON 803 and ask

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

THE MARKET-PLACE OF THE SOUTH

Stew Nugent lost a thumb in the roller towel at the New Palace today. Folks that say just what they think have nothin' to lose.

VIEWS OF THE VIRGINIA EDITORS.

Will Not Move Post-Office.

Garrisonville, Stafford County, Va., February 23, 1913.

The Journal Publishing Company, Fredericksburg, Va.:

I want to let the patrons of Garrisonville post-office know that in carrying the post-office, I will not move away from where it is now. So let anybody make you believe it be moved.

I thank every one who has helped my petition. Yours truly, ERNEST V. GARRISON.

How Birds Help Farmers.

Speaking of robins, it is unwise to shoot them, and a farmer who shoots any kind of bird to be shot is foolishly. But for the birds that would destroy our crops and the A man near here told me that a piece of wheat in which lived a pair of partridges was entirely free of chinch bug, while his other wheat where the birds had been killed almost worthless on account of ravages of the bugs.—Herald.

Quitting Party in King George.

Mrs. Edna Allen gave a d. quitting Monday afternoon and party at night. Quite a crowd present, and all seemed to enjoy selves, it being the thirty-eight day of Mrs. Allen. Refreshments served at a late hour and all home wishing Mrs. Allen many birthdays.—Thassapanay correspondence, Fredericksburg Journal.

Cash Received?

It is about time Mr. Longest reporting the amount raised among the "maimed and mangled" of Lee for the relief of the sickles.—Bristol Herald-Courier.

"Too Great and Too Good."

A word about "Smart Aleck" swears about men in your issue. I think the opinion of the honest position and function of Governor seems to be very much distorted that he praises Governor Blea turning loose known criminals, and a jury of their count under the laws of his State, show that he is a man of authority then try to make the impression Governor Mann is a weakling b he holds the dignity of the court the laws of his State above the sentimentalities of historians men and clamor of sensation-mongers of other sex. Governor Mann great and good to use his aut and powers to thwart the public law and good government, and ing loose convicts promiscuously, purpose is to see that the laws of state by maudlin sentiment, or State by maudlin sentiment, or whims of the rabble.—St. Paul correspondence, Cumberland Progressive.

A Veteran Correspondent.

Jonathan, the well known correspondent of the Valley, near G. burg, Va., will be seventy years on Saturday, March 8. As citizen, dier, school teacher and correspondent he has been a useful and worthy citizen, and may he live to see more birthdays.—Shenandoah Valley.

Disappoint the Undertaker.

Clean the town. Save doctors and funeral expenses.—Emporia senger.

National State and City Bank

Our Savings Department

The National State and City Bank maintains a completely equipped savings department, in which it invites accounts from \$1.00 upwards.

It pays 3 per cent compound interest on savings, and additional feature greatly appreciated lies in the fact that interest is paid from the date of deposit if the money remains in the bank sixty days or longer.

1111 East Main Street

Richmond, Va.